

SPARK GAP

Vol. 32, Issue 7, July 2015 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-two years*

On Our MARC...

I hope everyone had a nice and safe 4th of July holiday. Happy Birthday, United States of America!!

I also hope everyone read the *Daily Journal* on June 29th. MARC was front page, "above the fold"!! Thanks Rusty for getting the *Daily Journal* to attend Field Day. The article they wrote up was wonderful. It was good to have Robert Glamm there too. The DJ staff took some time to speak with him.

I would like to thank all those that came out for Field Day. As Jack Parker declined to help with set-up and Steve Carmean was in Florida, Steve Ellis and I took charge and got it done. Ken Barr said he would help as he had other commitments later that day. When Field Day came, Steve Ellis had to work so Ken and I started getting things ready. Tim Harding, Brian Murrey and Bob LaGrange showed up. As none of us had worked setup before, we talked it out and came up with a plan that was quickly implemented. We teamed up and started on the various tasks. More people showed up and pitched in. Everything was completed and MARC was on the air with Ken making our first contact at 1400hrs. After talking with the people that helped with set up the general consensus was that a step by step checklist of what is needed would be very helpful in the future. Linda has said that if a list is compiled she will type it up so we have a guide for all future events. I am asking that everyone that has helped with previous events please help on this list of items we need and how to get things set up.

We had 35 people that came out to show support for the day. Ron Schuetz set up outside. However, with the cooler weather, he was out there for about three hours and he needed to come inside to warm up. Sheriff Doug Cox showed up to support our club and thanked us for everything that we do to help out the county.

Rusty and Cindy worked the night shift. Steve Ellis joined them later that night. Field Day goes by sections....we worked 40 sections. We worked two countries, US and Canada

States = 28 including Puerto Rico

Provinces - Ontario and Alberta

Not bad really...bands condx were not optimum and we had a lot of RFI in the basement.

I would really like to thank Rusty and Cindy as they showed up at 3 for the reporter from the *Daily Journal* and were planning on going home to get a few hours of sleep. However, they stayed until after 3pm on Sunday. I tried to get him to go home and sleep a few hours but Rusty kept telling me he is staying for the club. Good to know that there are people out there that are doing things for the club and not themselves. Thanks again Rusty and Cindy for all you did that night.

The next scheduled activity for MARC is Hearthnut Sept 11th and 12th. Rusty and Kevin will be talking more about this at the club meeting to encourage members to sign up and help with this event.

July's speaker will be Tony Tolbert, W9AMT. He will be give a presentation about DMR and how it's transforming Amateur Radio. Digital Mobile Radio, is an open source standard for TDMA digital communications. Originally designed for the commercial market, DMR, also known as Motorola© MotoTRBO™, was adopted by the amateur community in 2009 with the intent of building a worldwide IP linked repeater network. Since then, the network has grown to over 400 repeaters and over 11,000 users worldwide in over 30 countries.

Our August speakers will be Dave Daily and Bob LaGrange. They will be speaking about RACES and ARES.

See you Saturday. Coffee will be on.

Jacki-KI6QOG
MARC President



JULY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

***KF9NF-Tom Daugherty
KC9CCM-Marc Snell
W9TAR-Tim Roberson***

MARC

Letters to Members of Congress Offer Biggest Boost to Amateur Radio Parity Act

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has told Section Managers that, while promotion and positive publicity about the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301) are always helpful, the most useful action radio amateurs can take is to contact their members of Congress, urging them to sign on as cosponsors. As of June 9, [72 members](#) of the US House in both parties were listed as cosponsors of the proposed legislation, which would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions. Craigie told the SMs that the grassroots campaign supporting H.R. 1301 needs more letters.



"We have been told quite bluntly by some congressional offices that they want letters from constituents -- that they will be interested in what the ARRL has to say only if they know that voters care about this issue," Craigie said in urging Section Managers to rally the troops. "Why should the congressman care, they ask, if the voters don't? There are tens of thousands of ARRL members who have not written yet. You can do a lot to persuade them to write, because they know you."

Craigie cited the case of US Rep John Carney of Delaware, who signed on as an H.R. 1301 cosponsor this week. Delaware Section Manager Bill Duveneck, KB3KYH, told her that ARRL members have been appealing to the state's lone Member of Congress to support the bill.

"Late last month, ARRL representatives visited Congressman Carney's Washington office and delivered a stack of approximately 50 constituent letters," Craigie recounted. "That, in addition to the in-state contacts, got the congressman's attention, and he agreed to cosponsor."

Craigie pointed out that the 50 letters were all the more impressive in the case of tiny Delaware, where there are fewer than 500 ARRL members. "Do the math!" she said. "If we could get a similar percentage of ARRL members in additional districts to write their members of Congress, the bill's progress would accelerate. Local in-district contacts plus concentrated letter-writing efforts add up to co-sponsorship. Here's to Delaware and all the other districts whose ARRL members are getting the job done for H.R. 1301."

Members are encouraged to contact their member of Congress by writing personalized, signed letters on paper, based on the sample letter, available on the [ARRL H.R. 1301](#) web page. Letters should go to ARRL Headquarters for hand delivery to the appropriate House members.

Send letters to: ARRL, ATTN H.R. 1301 Grassroots Campaign, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111.

114TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION **H. R. 1301**

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to extend to private land use restrictions its rule relating to reasonable accommodation of amateur service communications.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2015

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois (for himself, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. FERLINGHUYSEN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. TONKO, Mr. WOMACK, Mrs. NAJOLITANO, Mr. FORTYBERRY, Mr. WALBERG, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. PIERCE of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to extend to private land use restrictions its rule relating to reasonable accommodation of amateur service communications.

Sending these letters via ARRL allows Headquarters staff to keep track of how many communications are going to which congressional districts. But more important, Craigie pointed out, when letters are delivered to the Hill in person, there's an opportunity to speak with congressional staffers. "The stack of letters is proof that voters care about the bill," she said. "We have to convince the staff people, so they'll advise the Member of Congress to cosponsor. That's how it works on Capitol Hill."

Craigie further urged Section Managers to mention the bill when they speak at conventions and club meetings. Craigie also encouraged members whose US House member already has signed on to H.R. 1301 as a cosponsor to call, write, or e-mail a message of appreciation. "Good manners, good strategy," she said.

The League is working on having a US Senate version of H.R. 1301 introduced.

The latest House members to sign on as H.R. 1301 cosponsors include Bill Flores (TX), Patrick McHenry (NC), Ann Kuster (NH), John Carney (DE), Marsha Blackburn (TN), and Matt Aalmon, (AZ).

..... ARRL Letter June 11, 2015

M.A.R.C. Members Speak to U.S. Navy Sea Cadets

Members of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club made a presentation on the subject of Amateur Radio to over 30 Sea Cadets at Camp Atterbury on July 8th. M.A.R.C. was requested by Kyle Burns, KC9ZTA the Executive Officer of the US Navy Sea Cadet Corps Atterbury Battalion. The Sea Cadet Corps is primarily for young adults and this summer they were being instructed for the FEMA C.E.R.T program. MARC was requested to be part of their class for one evening giving them insight how useful Amateur Radio can be during an emergency situation and disasters. Most of the class was from different States but there were a few that lived in or near Johnson County.

The Sea Cadets were shown a presentation of the ARRL ARES disaster communication's introduction prepared by ARRL. MARC members Ron K9THR, Rusty N9LLP and Bob N9SIU answered many questions that the Sea Cadets had about amateur radio. Some Sea Cadets had limited knowledge but there were a few that had some understanding about Amateur Radio. One Cadet told us that he had some radios and equipment that he inherited from his late grandfather. We do hope that he eventually gets his license and becomes a HAM.

At the close of the class we all felt that we have raised the interest of the Sea Cadets to do more exploration of HAM Radio and eventually get their license. The Sea Cadets did understand the value of having your amateur radio license during a disaster or emergency in your community. An open invitation was given to all to be part of the MARC monthly meetings when possible and as members we can help them get their HAM license.

..... Bob N9SIU

Bits, Piecs & Parts

"That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Do you know where you were when these words were spoken? It was July 20th 1969.

To commemorate this, the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club and the Cradle of Aviation Museum will celebrate the development of the Lunar Excursion Module developed by Grumman, and the successful moon walk by Astronaut Neil Armstrong. They will operate a special event station, KC2CAM, from 9am until 4:30pm, Monday July 20th. Look for them on or about 14.240, 21.340 or 28.440 MHz.

To obtain a QSL mail a SASE to: LIMARC Apollo Event-PO Box 341-Levittown, NY 11756

Three Great Weather Links:

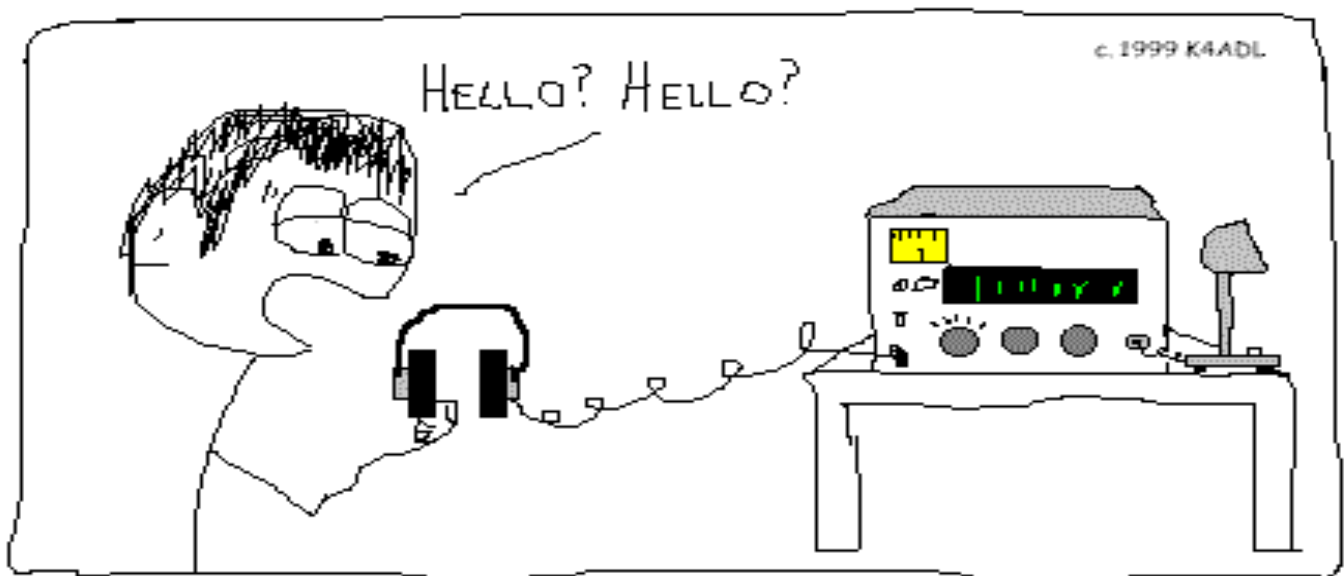
Weather -- <http://www.intellicast.com/Local/WxMap.aspx>

Lightning-- <http://www.lightningmaps.org/realtime>

Earthquakes—<http://www.earthquake.usgs.gov>

You can watch **HAM NATION** each week on **TwiT TV** ---- <https://twit.tv/shows>

"Yesterday, my XYL said she'd leave me if I didn't give up ham radio. Over."



THE TRANSITION FROM SHORT-WAVE-LISTENER TO HAM OPERATOR
WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT FOR EDMUND.

ARRL 2015 Hurricane Season Webinar Set for Monday, July 20

ARRL 2015 Hurricane Season Webinar Set for Monday, July 20: A reminder: The ARRL will host a 2015 Hurricane Season webinar on Monday, July 20. The session will get under way at 8 PM EDT (0000 on July 21). The approximately 90-minute session will address the role of Amateur Radio during the 2015 Hurricane Season, which runs through November. All who are interested in hurricane preparedness and response are invited to register <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/280869512766308353> for this online presentation. The program will include presentations by representatives of the National Hurricane Center and WX4NHC, the VoIP Hurricane Net, the HWN, the Canadian Hurricane Centre, and the ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>. Webinar registration is open to all, but should be of particular interest to radio amateurs in hurricane-prone areas. The webinar will conclude with a Q&A session. Register <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/280869512766308353> online. -- Thanks to Mike Corey, K1IU, ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager

Dayton Hamvention Reports 2015 Attendance Up Slightly Over 2014: The official attendance at the 2015 Dayton Hamvention <http://www.hamvention.org> was 25,621. That's an increase from the official count of 24,873 visitors last year -- or an additional 748 attendees. The 2013 attendance was 24,542. Hamvention attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669, before the 1996 change in date from April to May. While attendance has fluctuated over the years, Dayton Hamvention has grown to international proportions, attracting members of the worldwide Amateur Radio community each spring. The sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA <http://www.w8bi.org/>) already has begun counting down the days to the next Hamvention, which will take place May 20-22, 2016. -- Thanks to Henry Ruminski, W8HJR

DeorbitSail CubeSat Put into Orbit, Heard in US: The

DeorbitSail http://www.surrey.ac.uk/ssc/research/space_vehicle_control/deorbitsail/ CubeSat, built by researchers and radio amateurs at the Surrey Space Centre in Guildford, England, was launched into orbit on July 10. It carries a 1200 bps BPSK beacon transmitting on 145.975 MHz. The first DeorbitSail packet reports to the Surrey Space Centre came from Ken Swaggart, W7KKE, in Oregon. Nitin Muttin, VU3TYG, reported receiving signals as the CubeSat passed over India. The DeorbitSail project is a collaboration to build a 3U CubeSat with a deployable sail that will demonstrate rapid deorbiting from low-Earth orbit, taking advantage of the increased aerodynamic drag from a large deployed sail. The satellite will return to the Earth and burn up in the atmosphere over time, as its altitude reduces. The project has expressed its gratitude to the European Commission Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). Chris Bridges, 2E0OBC, is accepting all available telemetry files via e-mail deorbitsail.messages@gmail.com. Tracking and other information <http://amsat-uk.org/satellites/telemetry/deorbitsail> is available on the AMSAT-UK website. Follow <https://twitter.com/SpaceAtSurrey> the Surrey Space Center on Twitter.

Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR Named to Head NASA Astronaut Office: Ham-Astronaut Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, has been appointed chief of NASA's Astronaut Office. Cassidy, who conducted several Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contacts as part of the Expedition 35/36 crew onboard the ISS in 2013, is a US Navy Captain and a former Navy SEAL. NASA officials announced his appointment on July 9. During his career as an astronaut, Cassidy, 45, spent 182 days in space and carried out six spacewalks. In addition to time on the ISS, Cassidy was part of a Shuttle Endeavour crew. He replaces US Air Force Col Robert Behnken, KE5GGX. In his new role, Cassidy will manage the operations and safety programs of NASA's Astronaut Office. He'll also help to develop astronaut flight crew operational concepts as well as crew assignments for future space missions.

Two Radio Amateurs Set to Launch to ISS: Three new International Space Station (ISS) crew members will launch July 23 (UTC) from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS; Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, and Kimiya Yui will travel into space in a Russian Soyuz spacecraft that will rendezvous with the ISS and dock after four orbits of Earth. NASA TV <http://www.nasa.gov/nasatv> will cover the activities. Expedition 44 Commander Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, and Flight Engineers Scott Kelly and Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, will be on hand to greet the newcomers. Lindgren, Kononenko, and Yui will remain on station until late December. Kelly and Kornienko, who have been onboard the ISS since March, will return to Earth next March at the end of their 1-year mission. Padalka, who also has been aboard since March, will return to Earth in September.

Source:

The ARRL Letter

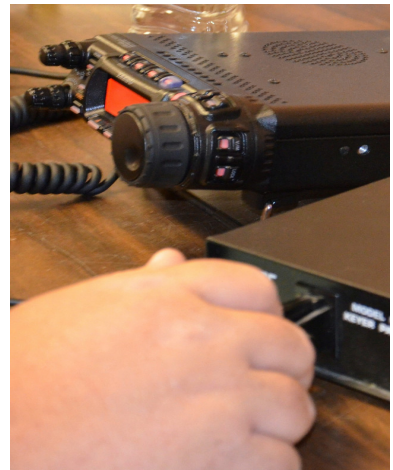
2015 ARRL Field Day Johnson County



K9THR Checks-in



Robert Glam (sitting)



YEASU & KEY



Sheriff Doug Cox & Kevin



Maryls making contacts



Mike Gray tuning



Sam makes some new contacts

Pictures : Jack W8ISH

MARC PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

These activities are open to ALL Club Members and Interested Parties.

August 29th --- Greenwood Community Band Festival – Surnia Park – Greenwood

September 11th & 12th ---- Heartnut Festival --- Johnson County Park

September 26th ---- Greenwood High School Band Invitational – Greenwood HS

Please note:

These Public Service Events are counted as an ARES/RACES exercise and a report is filed with ARRL and Indiana Section ARES.

HAMFESTS

11/14/2015 | [Indiana State Convention \(Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo\)](#)

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

AUGUST MARC MEETING

ARES/RACES PRESENTATION

**An explanation of the ARES and
RACES Communication**

**Programs will be given so all
members will have a better
understanding of both
emergency communications
programs for Johnson County.**

**Some of the topics discussed will
be how**

**Amateur Radio works with the
community and
the Johnson County Emergency
Management Agency during
emergencies and disaster
conditions.**

**You will also have a better
understanding of the
public service opportunities and
events amateur radio is used in
Johnson and surrounding
counties.**

**An explanation of why each
amateur radio net and each public
event amateur radio is involved
is important to the community
and a practice of our
communication skills.**

MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club
meets the THIRD SATURDAY of
each month in the basement of the
Johnson County Emergency
Management Agency,
1111 Hospital Road, Franklin,
Indiana 46131.

See our website,
www.midstatehams.org, for maps on
how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not
have to be a HAM to attend our
meetings or a member of the club.

***WA9RDF Repeater 146.835/ 146.235
MHz 151.4 Hz PL Tone***

Club Officers:

President: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG

Vice Pres.: Dave Daily – KB9LOT

Secretary: Rhonda Curtis– WS9H

Treasurer: Cy Young – N9CHY

***Repeater Trustee - Chris Frederick –
KQ9Y***

Weekly Net: Sunday evening

***7:00 PM ARES/RACES members
and ALL RADIO AMATEURS***

***The Official Newsletter of the Mid-
State Amateur Radio Club***

*P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131*

Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

***Please send your articles to my
email n9siu@yahoo.com
no later than the 3rd of the month***

